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Surface-treated apparel material.

According to the invention, a chemically adsorbed film is formed on an apparel material which has a surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups and a stem which is chemically bonded by -Si- bonds to the material. A high performance apparel material thus can be provided which retains intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation and aesthetic appearance and is excellently durable and highly water- and oil-repelling and anti-contaminating or excellently durable and highly hydrophilic. The chemically adsorbed film has a very thin surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups, and is thus excellently water- and oil-repelling and anti-contaminating. In addition, since its stem is chemically bonded via -Si- bonds to the material, it does not separate and is excellently durable. Further, it is very thin and does not adversely effect intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation, color and aesthetic appearance.

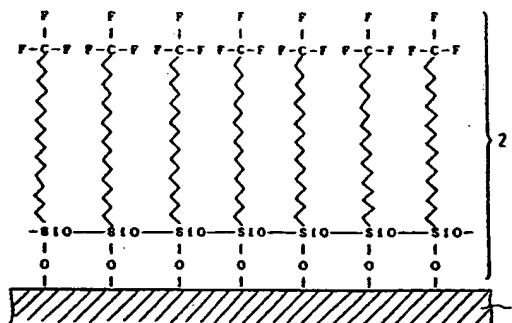
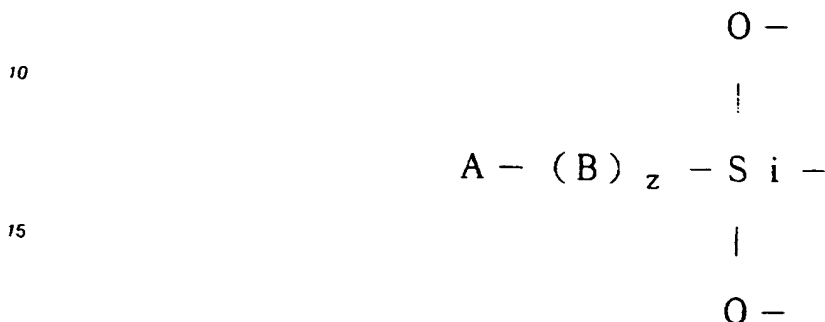


Figure-1

It is preferable in this invention that the apparel product is an artificial wig having chemical or synthetic fibers.

It is preferable in this invention that the hydrophilic functional group of the chemically adsorbed film includes at least one functional group selected from a group consisting of -OH, -COOH, -NH₂, -N⁺R₃X⁻ (where R represents an alkylene group, and X represents a halogen atom), -NO₂ and -SO₃H.

It is preferable in this invention that the chemically adsorbed film is a compound of the formula



where A represents a -OH, -COOH, -NH₂, -N⁺R₃X⁻ (where R represents an alkylene group, and X represents a halogen atom), -NO₂ or -SO₃H group, z represents an integer from 1 to 30, and B represents a hydrocarbon group or functional group.

According to the invention, a chemically adsorbed film is formed on an apparel material which has a surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups and a stem chemically bonded by siloxane bonds to the substrate. A high performance apparel material thus can be provided which retains intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation and aesthetic appearance and is excellently durable and highly water- and oil-repelling and contamination-proof. The chemically adsorbed film has a very thin surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups and is thus excellently water- and oil-repelling and contamination-proof. In addition, since its stem is chemically bonded via siloxane bonds to the material, it does not separate and is excellently durable. Further, it is very thin and does not adversely effect intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation, color and aesthetic appearance.

Further, according to the invention the chemically adsorbed film is a monomolecular film. Thus, it is possible to provide a high performance apparel material which is thin, excellently transparent and highly water- and oil-repelling and contamination-proof. Where the chemically adsorbed film is a polymer film, it is possible to provide highly dense and thick of film. Particularly, improvement in the water separation of swimsuit cloth or the water-repelling properties of cloth surfaces without adversely effecting the properties of nylon and polyurethane fibres, is very important from the standpoint of providing very functional swimsuits. According to the invention, a fluorocarbon-based monomolecular film having a thickness on the order of nanometers order is formed directly or indirectly on fiber or cloth swimsuit surface. Therefore, the intrinsic color and flexibility of the fiber or cloth are not adversely effected. Further, the fluorocarbon-based monomolecular film is chemically bonded (i.e., covalently bonded) by -Si- bonds, and therefore is not separated when the suit is taken on and off, during swimming, or while the suit is washed. Furthermore, the fluorocarbon-based monomolecular film is very excellently water-repelling and can make the fiber surface more water-separating and - repelling. Moreover, with such swimsuit the surface tension is low, and it is thus possible to increase the buoyancy. Thus, a high performance swimsuit can be provided.

Since according to the invention a hydrophilic monomolecular film having a thickness on the order of nanometer is formed on an apparel material, it is possible to selectively make only the surface of the fiber material hydrophilic. Intrinsic water-free characters of the synthetic fiber material such as luster and resiliency are not spoiled.

It is thus possible to provide a high performance apparel material, which is highly hydrophilic and has excellent feel. Particularly, since only the surface of polyester or like hydrophobic fibers is made hydrophilic, water or moisture is passed to the outside of the fiber material at the time of sweating (i.e., a water or moisture transfer effect is provided). In addition, the clothing itself is less cold and can be very comfortably worn.

Artificial wigs are produced from chemical synthetic fiber filaments of nylon, acrylic acid, polyester capable of dying with dispersed dyes, basic polyester capable of dying, rayon, acetate, etc. Human hair is also used.

However, wigs produced from human hair are expensive. In addition, when they absorb sweat, they

Claim 4

make them hydrophilic, and then treated with non-aqueous solution containing a chlorosilane-based surface active material.

According to the invention, a chemically adsorbed film is suitably formed by using a chlorosilane-based surface active material containing a fluoroalkyl group.

5 Examples of trichlorosilane-based surface active materials of the present invention include

- $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CF}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CF}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{F}(\text{CF}_2)_4(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_3$,
 10 $\text{F}(\text{CF}_2)_8(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CF}_3\text{COO}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_5(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$,
 15 $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_3$,
 $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_3$.

20 Examples of lower-alkyl substituted monochlorosilane- or dichlorosilane-based surface active materials of the present invention include $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_9\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_5(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$, $\text{CF}_3\text{COO}(\text{CH}_2)_{15}\text{SiCl}_n(\text{CH}_3)_{3-n}$ where n represents 1 or 2.

25 Among these examples, trichlorosilane-based surface active materials are preferred in that chlorosilyl bonds other than those bonded to their hydrophilic groups form inter-molecular bonds with adjacent chlorosilane groups by siloxane bonds, thereby forming a more firmly adsorbed film.

Trichlorosilane-based surface active materials are particularly preferred because chlorosilyl bonds other than those coupled to their hydrophilic groups form inter-molecular bonds with adjacent chlorosilane groups with siloxane bonds and thus permit formation of a more firmly adsorbed film. Further, $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_n(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$ where n represents an integer, most suitably 3 to 25, is preferred because of its solubility and its water-repelling, anti-contaminating and other functional properties. Further, with an ethylene or acetylene group added to or incorporated in the alkyl fluoride chain portion, the chemically adsorbed film may be crosslinked after formation by irradiating it with an electron beam of about 5 Mrads, thus further improving the hardness of the chemically adsorbed film.

35 It is thus possible to further improve the hardness of the chemically adsorbed film.

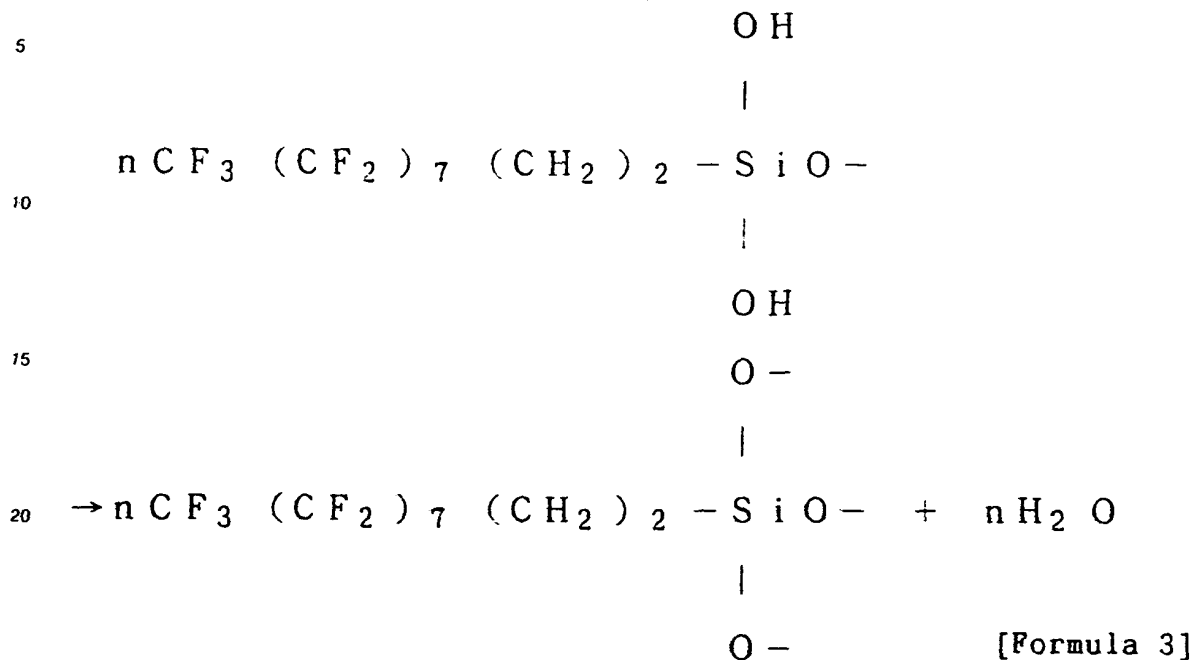
The chlorosilane-based surface active material capable of use according to the invention is not limited to those in the form of a straight chain as noted above. It is possible to use a branched alkyl fluoride or hydrocarbon group or those having a substituted alkyl fluoride or hydrocarbon group with silicon at one end (i.e., those represented by the formula R_2SiCl_2 , R_3SiCl , $\text{R}^1\text{R}^2\text{SiCl}_2$ or $\text{R}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{SiCl}$ where R, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 represents an fluorocarbon group or hydrocarbon group). To increase the adsorption density, however, the straight chain form is preferred.

Further, by chemically adsorbing a material for forming an inner layer material having a plurality of chlorosilyl groups, e.g., SiCl_4 , SiHCl_3 , SiH_2Cl_2 , and $\text{Cl}(\text{SiCl}_2\text{O})_n\text{Cl}_3$ (where n represents an integer in a range from 1 to 20), $\text{SiCl}_m(\text{CH}_3)_{4-m}$, $\text{SiCl}_m(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_{4-m}$ (where m represents 1, 2 or 3), and $\text{HSiCl}_p(\text{CH}_3)_{3-p}$, $\text{HSiCl}_p(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_{3-p}$ (where p represents 1 or 2), and then reacting it with water, surface chlorosilyl bonds are converted to hydrophilic silanol bonds, thus making the polymer composition hydrophilic. Among the materials containing a plurality of chlorosilyl groups, tetrachlorosilane (SiCl_4) is preferred in that it is highly reactive and low in molecular weight. It can, therefore, provide silanol bonds at a high density. In this way, it is possible to provide a highly hydrophilic composition compared to oxidation treatment of a polymer-containing substrate. To this surface, a chlorosilane-based surface active material containing fluorocarbon groups may be chemically adsorbed. In this way, a chemically adsorbed film suitably having an increased density can be obtained.

Thus, it is possible to make the surface of synthetic fibers or the like hydrophilic.

55 The apparel, to which the invention pertains, includes fiber, woven and knit products, non-woven cloths, sheets, filled items, leather products, fur products, artificial leather, artificial fur, and papers, more specifically clothing such as hats, mufflers, outerwear, pants, stockings and gloves, Japanese items such as haoris, kimonos, tabis, obis, zoris and getas, rainwear such as umbrellas, tents, rucksacks, ropes, nets, shoes, coats and raincoats, cold weather outfits such as jumpers, anoraks and leathered garments, wedding

drying as in formula [3] over the entire cloth fiber surfaces. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.



Thus, a fluorine-containing monomolecular film 2 could be formed. The film was chemically bonded (i.e., covalently bonded) to the fiber surface 2. The chemical bond is via siloxane bond. The formation of chemically adsorbed monomolecular film was measured by FTIR spectrometry and thickness was about 1.5 nm (Figure 1). It was chemically bonded very firmly and did not separate at all.

This treated cloth, which was water- and oil-repelling, was trial used. Compared to non-treated cloth, attached contaminants were greatly reduced and could be readily removed by merely rubbing the cloth with a brush. The water-proof property of the cloth was tested, and it was found that the wetting angle was about 150 degrees and that no water drops remained on the surface at all. Further, the intrinsic characteristics of the material such as ventilation, wear and appearance (i.e., aesthetic look) could be retained.

While this example concerned a cotton product, the surface of a cloth comprising water-repelling synthetic fibers of material such as acrylic acid, polyester or polyamide, may be preliminarily made hydrophilic by treatment in an oxygen-containing plasma atmosphere at 100 W for about 30 minutes. (As other methods of making the cloth hydrophilic, there is one in which the cloth is dipped and held in a solution containing 10 % potassium dichromate at 80 °C for three minutes, and another in which the cloth was dipped and held in a concentrated sulfuric acid solution containing 10 % potassium perchlorate.) The same method could be utilized for leather and fur products.

EXAMPLE 2

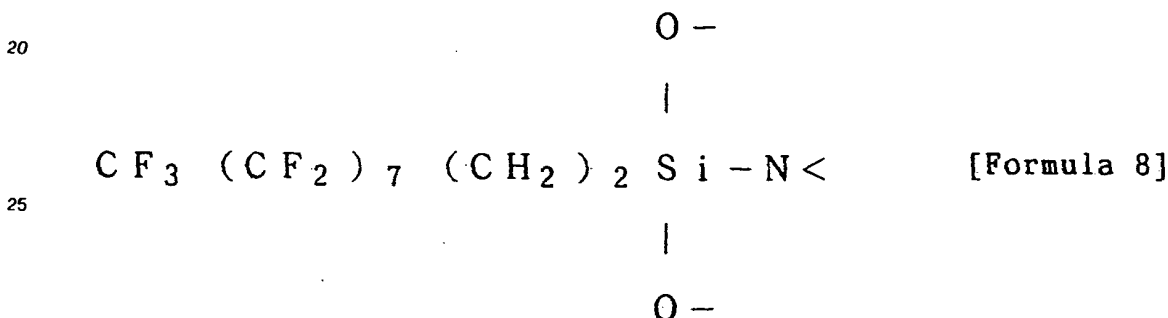
This example concerns cloth which contains less hydroxyl groups although it is hydrophilic (e.g., plasma-treated acrylic acid fiber cloth). The cloth was dipped and held in a non-aqueous solution containing a material containing a plurality of chlorosilyl groups, e.g., SiCl_4 , SiHCl_3 , SiH_2Cl_2 , and $\text{Cl}(\text{SiCl}_2\text{O})_n\text{Cl}_3$ (where n represents an integer in a range from 1 to 20), SiCl_4 being small in molecular size and highly active with respect to the hydroxyl groups to provide for a material surface which is uniformly hydrophilic, e.g., a solution obtained by dissolving 1 % by weight of the material in chloroform solvent, for about 30 minutes. A dehydrochlorination reaction was brought about on the surface of the material 11 (Figure 2) due to a certain amount of hydrophilic groups 12 provided at the surface by plasma treatment. Thus, a chlorosilane monomolecular film of the material containing a plurality of trichlorosilyl groups could be formed.

As an example, by using SiCl_4 as the material containing a plurality of trichlorosilyl groups, a dehydrochlorination reaction was brought about at the surface of the material 11 due to a small amount of exposed hydrophilic -OH groups. Thus, molecules represented by formulas [4] and/or [5] were secured via Si-O bonds to the material surface.

of the material. In addition, the film is excellently water- and oil-repelling and can enhance the contamination-proof effects of the surface. Further, it is excellently durable. It is thus possible to provide a very highly water- and contamination-proof high performance apparel material.

EXAMPLE 3

Swimsuit cloth 15 (Figure 5) was prepared by braiding fibers with nylon fibers wound on polyurethane fibers as core. The cloth was then washed well and dried, and then it was dipped and held for about two hours in a non-aqueous solution containing a material containing a fluorocarbon and a chlorosilyl group, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of n-hexadecane, 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, obtained by dissolving about 1 % by weight of $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilyl (-SiCl) groups in the material containing a fluorocarbon and chlorosilyl groups and imino groups numerously contained at the cloth fiber surface. The fiber was then washed with chloroform to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual -SiCl group was changed to a -SiOH group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond (-SiO-) after drying as in the formula [8].



A fluorine-containing monomolecular film 16 was thus formed (Figure 6). The film thus obtained was chemically bonded to the nylon and polyurethane fiber surface. Its thickness was about 1.5 nm. It was chemically bonded (i.e., covalently bonded) very firmly to the cloth fibers and did not separate at all.

A swimsuit was produced using the treated water-repelling cloth for trial use. The cloth was found to be excellently water-separating and -repelling compared to non-treated cloth. Its water-wetting angle was measured and found to be about 160 degrees. Further, the surface tension was low, and the buoyancy of the swimsuit was high compared to the conventional swimsuit. Ventilation was comparable to that of non-treated product. While this example concerned cloth, the same method could be utilized for yarn before spinning or for a swimsuit after sewing.

EXAMPLE 4

This example seeks improvement of the water-repelling property. To this end, swimsuit cloth prepared by braiding fibers with nylon fibers wound on polyurethane fibers as a core was dipped and held for about 30 minutes in a non-aqueous solution containing a material containing a plurality of chlorosilyl groups, e.g., $\text{Cl}(\text{SiCl}_2\text{O})_2\text{SiCl}_3$ being small in molecular size and highly active with respect to the imino groups to provide a material surface which was uniformly hydrophilic, e.g., a solution obtained by dissolving 1 % by weight of the material in chloroform solvent. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about on the cloth fiber surface owing to a small amount of imino (=NH) groups present at the surface (Figure 7(a)). Thus, a monomolecular film was formed.

As an example, by using $\text{Cl}(\text{SiCl}_2\text{O})_2\text{SiCl}_3$ as the material containing a plurality of trichlorosilyl groups, a hydrochloric acid removal reaction was brought about on the cloth fiber surface owing to a small amount of imino groups exposed at the surface. Thus, molecules represented by formulas [9] and/or [10] were secured via -SiN< bonds to the surface.

weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, prepared by dissolving 10 % by weight of $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$ were formed on the cloth fiber surfaces.

The cloth was then washed with chloroform to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. As a result, bonds of $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{Si}(\text{O}-)_3$ were formed. Thus, a fluorine-containing monomolecular film 20 was formed over the entire cloth fiber surfaces (Figure 7(c)) as above in formulas [1] to [3].

The film thus obtained was chemically bonded to the inner siloxane monomolecular film. Its thickness was about 1.5 nm. It did not separate at all in a peel-off test. In actual use, it was found to be more excellently water-repelling than the film obtained in Example 3.

As in the above example, a fluorocarbon-based monomolecular film which has a thickness on the order of nanometers, is formed on the fiber surface without spoiling the intrinsic color tone or luster of the swimsuit. In addition, the fluorocarbon-based monomolecular film is chemically bonded (or covalently bonded) by -Si- bonds to the fiber surfaces, and thus does not separate when taking on and off the swimsuit, during swimming or while the swimsuit is washed. It is excellently water-repelling and can enhance water separation and repelling of the swimsuit surface and reduce resistance offered to water.

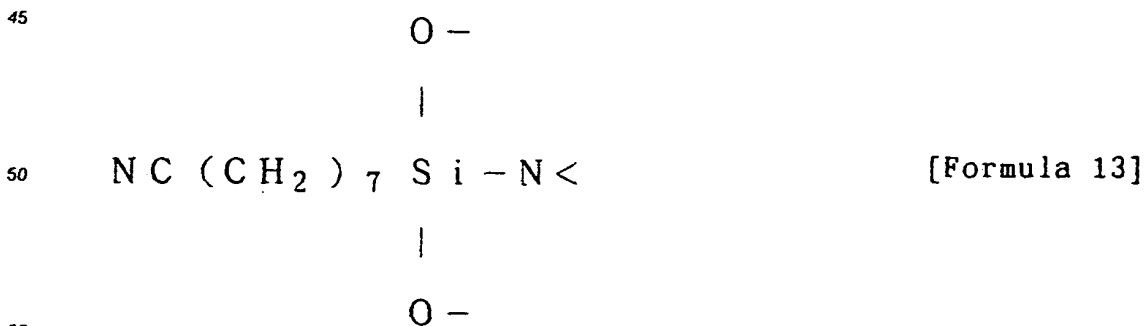
In the meantime, the method according to the invention can be utilized when making the fiber surface hydrophilic, as will be described later in detail in connection with the examples.

As apparel to which the invention pertains, there are such clothes as underwear, sport wear, socks and brief/stockings. Many of these clothes are made of nylon, polyurethane, polyester, acrylic acid and like fibers. With a chemically adsorbed monomolecular film containing hydrophilic functional groups formed via -Si- bonds on the surface of the fiber or cloths before processing, comfortability of wear can be improved. In addition, since the chemically adsorbed monomolecular film is bonded by chemical bonds (or covalent bonds), it does not separate when the clothing is taken on and off or while the clothing is washed. The chemically adsorbed film according to the invention is applicable not only to hydrophobic fibers but also to natural fibers such as cotton, linen and silk as well as blend spin products such as a mixture of cotton and polyester fibers.

EXAMPLE 5 (introduction of a cyano (-CN) group)

Nylon fibers 21 were prepared (Figure 8(a)). (Alternatively, it is possible to use polyurethane fibers or cloth woven from such fibers or apparel product obtained from such cloth. With products of synthetic fibers having imino groups, e.g., polyester or acrylic fibers, the fiber surface may be slightly oxidized with a dichromatic acid solution to introduce hydrophilic hydroxyl groups capable of reacting with chlorosilyl groups at the surface.) The fibers were dipped and held for about two hours in a non-aqueous solution containing an adsorbed material having a cyano and a chlorosilyl group, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of cyclohexane (or toluene, xylene or dicyclohexyl), prepared by dissolving 1 % by weight of $\text{NC}(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{SiCl}_3$.

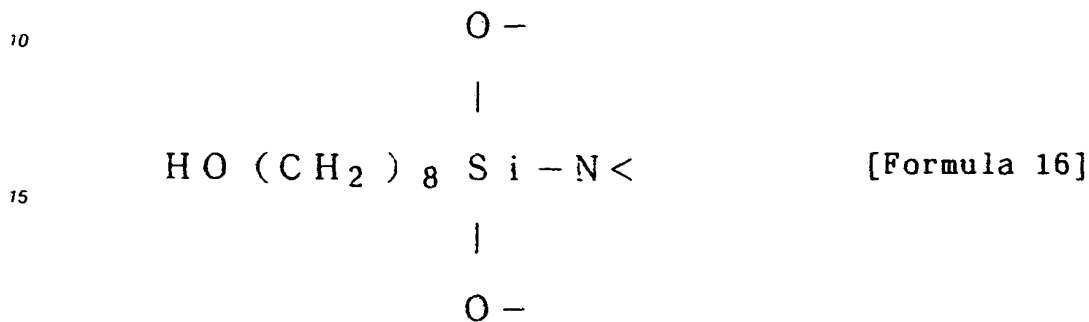
A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilyl (-SiCl) groups in the adsorbed material and imino groups numerously contained at the fiber surfaces. The fiber was then washed with chloroform to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual -SiCl group was changed to a -SiOH group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond (-SiO-) after drying as in the formula [13]. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.



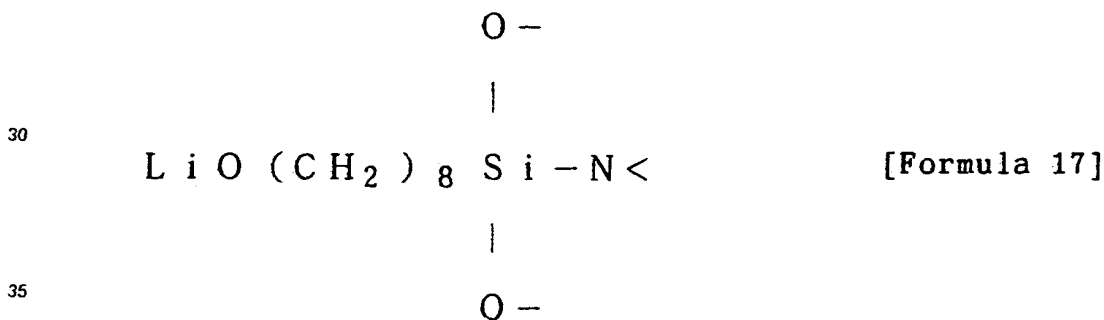
By subsequently washing the fibers, a monomolecular film 23 containing cyano groups (Figure 8(b)) was formed. The film was chemically bonded to the fiber surfaces. Its thickness was about 1.5 nm. It was

A monomolecular film 33 containing ester bonds thus could be formed. The film thus obtained was chemically bonded (or covalently bonded to the fiber surfaces, and its thickness was about 2.0 nm (Figure 10(b)).

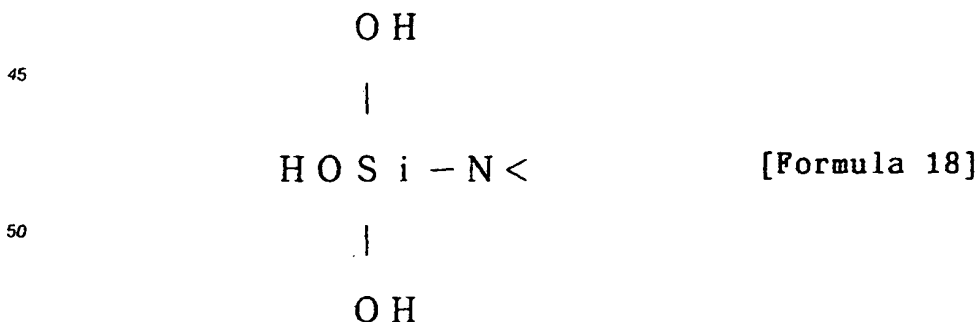
The treated fibers were then reacted in an ether solution containing several per cent by weight of lithium aluminium hydride (LiAlH_4) at a temperature below room temperature for 20 minutes to introduce hydrophilic hydroxyl end groups so as to form a monomolecular film 34 (Figure 10(c)) represented by formula [16].



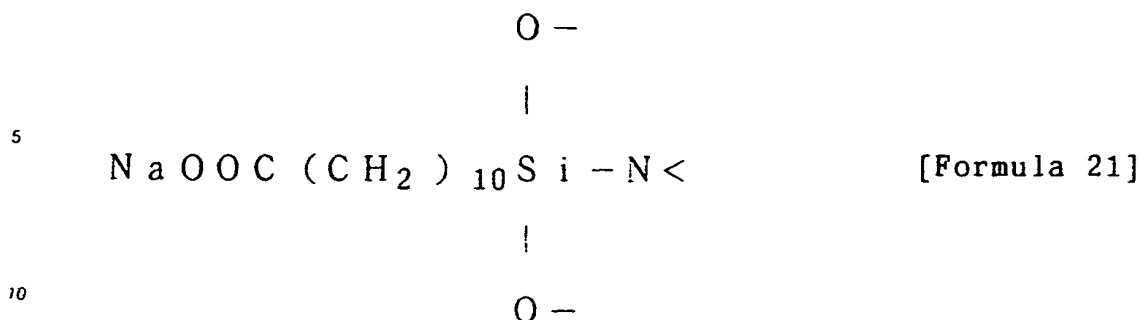
The monomolecular film 34 was very firmly chemically bonded (or covalently bonded) to the fibers and did not separate at all. The fibers were further dipped in a cyclohexane solution containing an organic compound of an alkali metal, e.g., $\text{LiO}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$ (or NaOCH_3) to form a very lightly hydrophilic film 35 (Figure 10(d)) represented by formula [17].



As another example, the nylon fibers were washed with an organic solvent and then reacted with a material containing a plurality of chlorosilyl groups, e.g., SiCl_4 . The fibers were subsequently washed with a solvent, e.g., freon 113, and then with water. As a result, unreacted SiCl_4 molecules remaining on the fiber surface were removed to obtain a siloxane monomolecular film as represented by formula [18].



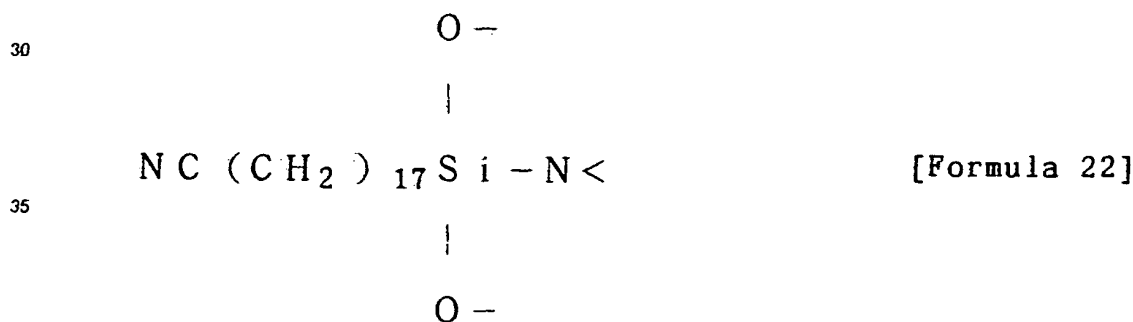
A siloxane monomolecular film abundantly containing hydroxyl (-OH) groups thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fiber surfaces, and its thickness was about 3.0 nm. Subsequent to the above chemical adsorption of SiCl_4 , the process in Example 5 or 6 was carried out. Thus a hydrophilic monomolecular film could be formed with a higher density on the fiber surface than the



A highly hydrophilic monomolecular film 45 (Figure 11(d)) thus could be formed on the fiber surfaces. This film did not separate by washing. The treated nylon fibers were used to produce tricot braiding for trial use. The braiding was comfortable when worn.

EXAMPLE 9 (introduction of an -NH₂ group)

Nylon cloth (Figure 12(a)) was prepared by dipping and holding the cloth for about two hours in a non-aqueous solution containing an adsorbed material having a cyano and a chlorosilyl group, e.g., a solution containing cyclohexane, prepared by dissolving 1 % by weight of NC(CH₂)₁₇SiCl₃. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between -SiCl groups in the adsorbed material containing a cyano and a chlorosilyl group and imino groups 52 numerously contained at the fiber surfaces. The cloth was then washed with freon 113 to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual -SiCl group was changed to a -SiOH group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond after drying as in the formula [22]. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.



A monomolecular film 53 containing cyano groups thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fiber surfaces (Figure 12(b)).

The treated fibers were then dipped and held in ether containing dissolved lithium aluminium hydride (10 mg/ml) for overnight reaction. Then, the fibers were taken out from the solution and added to an ether solution containing 10 % by weight hydrochloric acid. Thereafter, they were dipped and held in a triethylamine solution for two hours. A highly hydrophilic monomolecular film 54 (Figure 12(c)) represented by formula [23] was formed.

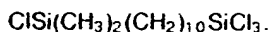
film represented above in the formula [20] was obtained.

This monomolecular film was very firmly chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fibers and not separated at all. It did not separate by washing. This nylon cloth was used to produce tennis wear for trial use. The tennis wear was excellently water- and moisture-permeable and comfortable when worn.

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EXAMPLE 10 (introduction of an =NH group)

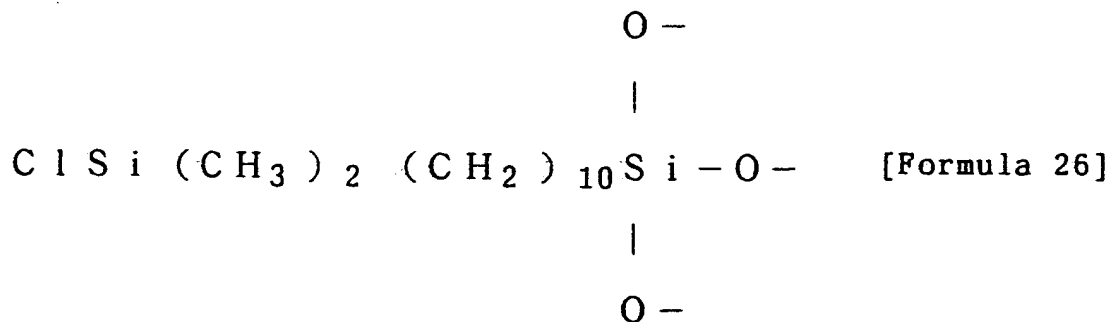
An acrylic fiber (or polyester fiber) sweater with the fiber surfaces thereof treated with a dichromatic acid mixed solution for 30 minutes to introduce hydroxyl groups was prepared (Figure 13(a)), then washed well with water. The sweater was dipped and held for five hours in a non-aqueous solution containing a adsorbed material having a chlorosilyl group at each end e.g., an "Aflood" solution (a fluorine-based solvent provided by Asahi Glass Co.), prepared by dissolving about 2 % by weight of



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A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilyl (-SiCl) groups at one end of molecules of the material containing a chlorosilyl group at each end and hydroxyl groups 62 numerously contained at the fiber surfaces (Figure 13(a)). The sweater was then washed with freon 113 to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface. Thus, bonds formed by formula [26] were produced over the entire fiber surfaces.

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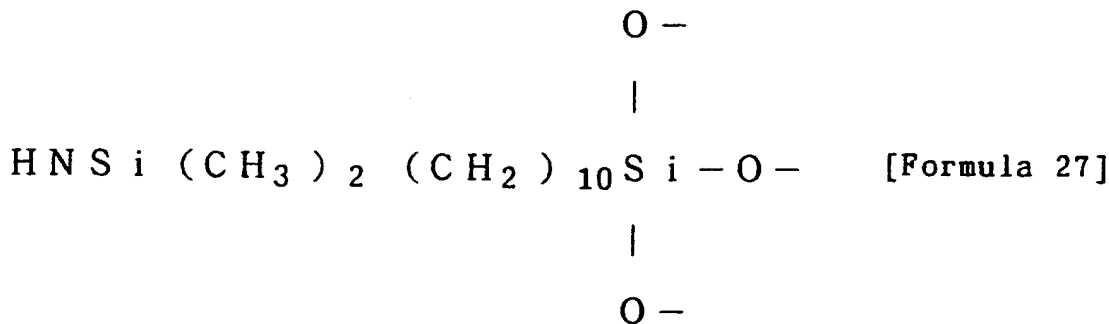
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A monomolecular film 63 containing chlorosilyl groups (Figure 13(b)) thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fiber surfaces.

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The treated fibers were then dipped in "Aflood" solvent containing 10 % by weight of CH_3NH_2 for a dehydrochlorination reaction, and then washed with "Aflood" solution. Thus, bonds formed by formula [27] were produced over the entire fiber surfaces.

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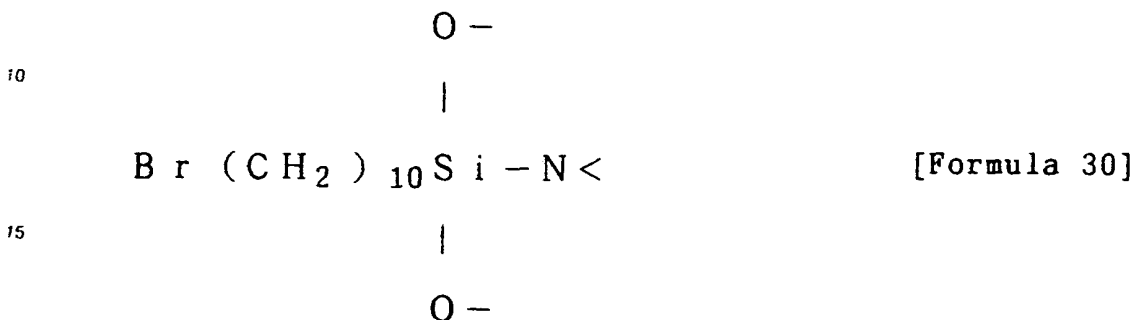
Thus, a hydrophilic monomolecular film 64 could be obtained (Figure 13(c)).

This monomolecular film was very firmly chemically (or covalently) bonded and did not separate at all. Also, it did not separate by washing. The acrylic fiber sweater thus obtained was trial used and found to be excellently water- and moisture-repelling and comfortable when worn.

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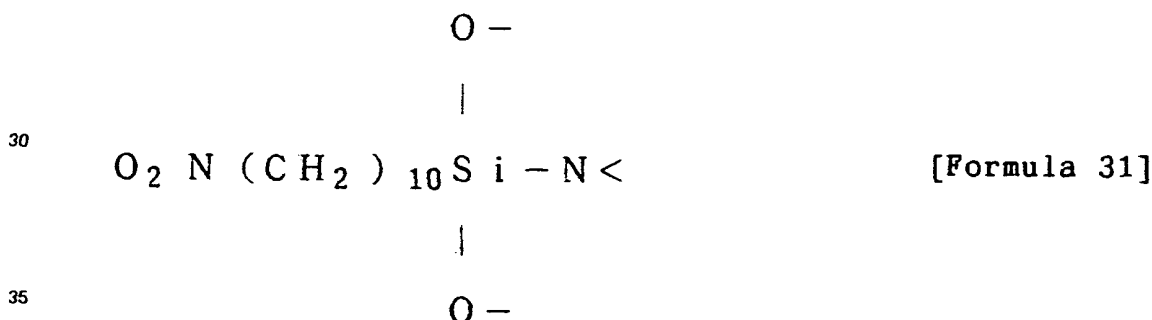
EXAMPLE 11 (introduction of a $-\text{N}^+\text{R}_3\text{X}^-$ (X representing a halogen atom) group)

bromo or iodo and a chlorosilyl group, e.g., a solution containing "Aflod" noted above, prepared by dissolving about 2 % by weight of $\text{Br}(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{SiCl}_3$. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilyl ($-\text{SiCl}$) groups in the material containing a bromo or iodo and a chlorosilyl group and imino groups 82 numerously contained at the fiber surfaces. The fiber was then washed with "Aflod" to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface. Thus, bonds formed by formula [30] were produced over the entire fiber surfaces.



A monomolecular film 83 containing bromo groups thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fiber surfaces, and its thickness was about 1.5 nm (Figure 15(b)).

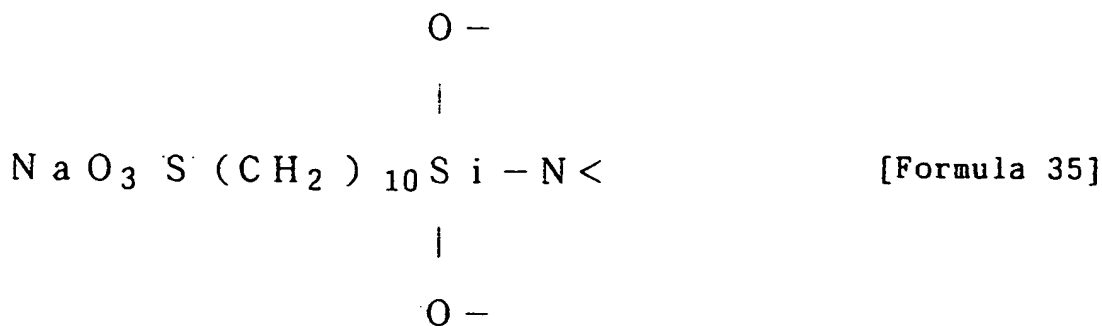
The treated fibers were then reacted in an alkaline aqueous solution containing 5 % by weight of AgNO_3 at 80°C for two hours. Thus, a hydrophilic monomolecular film 84 (Figure 15(c)) represented by formula [31] could be obtained.



This monomolecular film was very firmly chemically (or covalently) bonded to the fibers and did not separate at all. Also, it did not separate by washing. The treated nylon fibers were used to produce a tricot braiding coat for trial use. The coat was excellently water- and moisture-permeable and comfortable when worn.

EXAMPLE 13 (introduction of a thiocyno ($-\text{SCN}$) group)

Nylon fibers 91 were prepared (Figure 16(a)) and washed with an organic solution. The fibers were dipped and held for about five hours in a non-aqueous solution containing an adsorbed material having thiocyno ($-\text{SCN}$) and chlorosilyl groups, e.g., a solution containing cyclohexane, prepared by dissolving 2 % by weight of $\text{NCS}(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{SiCl}_3$. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilyl ($-\text{SiCl}$) groups in the material and imino groups 92 numerously contained at the fiber surfaces. The fiber was then washed with freon 113 to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual $-\text{SiCl}$ group was changed to a $-\text{SiOH}$ group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond after drying as in formula [32]. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.



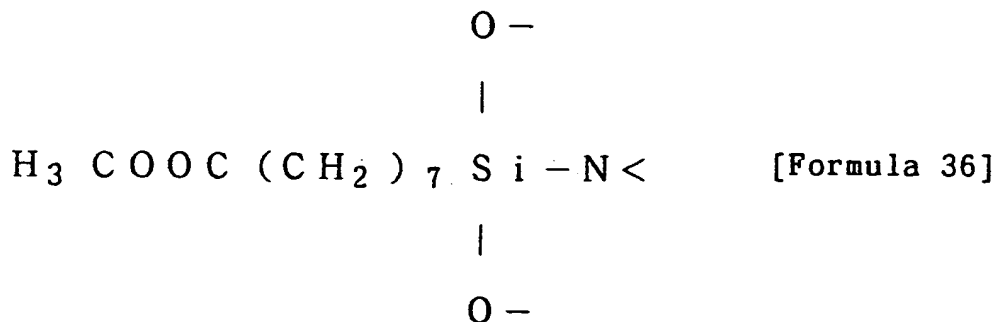
The film did not separate by washing. The treated nylon fibers were used to produce braided stockings for trial use. The stockings were comfortable when worn.

As in the above example, hydrophilic functional groups are chemically adsorbed, i.e., chemically (or covalently) bonded, via silicon groups to the surface of the apparel material. Thus, the surfaces of hydrophobic fibers may be made hydrophilic. The chemically adsorbed film will not separate when the clothing is taken on and off or is washed. In addition, it does adversely effect intrinsic characteristics such as elasticity and water repellancy the apparel products. In addition, it is excellently water- and moisture-permeable and can improve comfort when worn. Further, it permits apparel material to be comparatively freely made hydrophilic to a desired level.

EXAMPLE 15 (introduction of an -OH group)

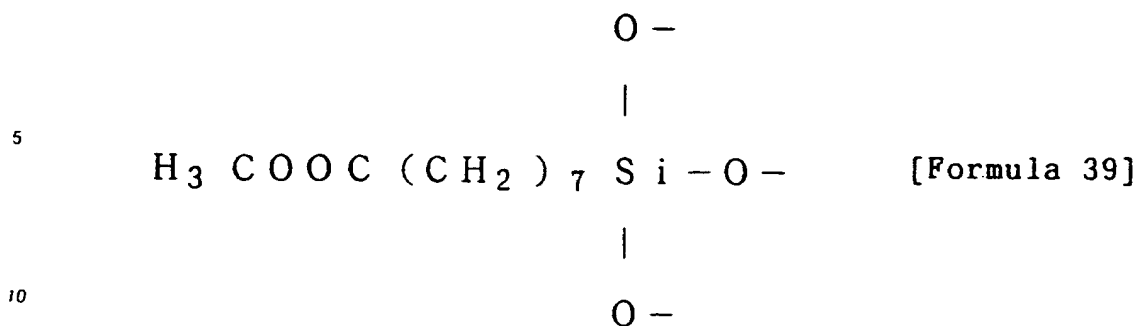
Treated nylon synthetic fiber filaments 31 (Figure 10(a)) were prepared, washed with an organic solution. The fibers were dipped and held for about five hours in a non-aqueous solution containing an adsorbed material having an ester group and a chlorosilane group, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of n-hexadecane, 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, prepared by dissolving about 2 % by weight of $\text{CH}_3\text{OOC}(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{SiCl}_3$. A dehydrochlorination reaction was thus brought about between chlorosilane (-SiCl) groups in the material containing an ester bond and a chlorosilane group and imino groups 32 contained numerously at the nylon filament surface. The fiber was then washed with freon 113 to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual -SiCl group was changed to a -SiOH group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond after drying. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.

Thus, bonds were formed as in formula [36].



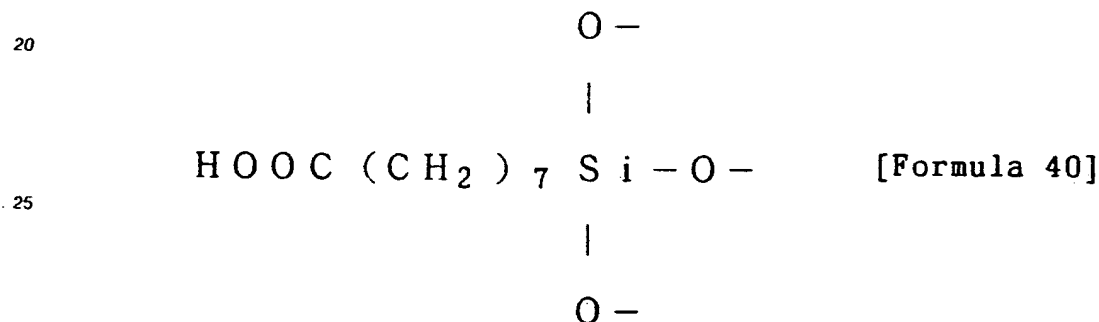
A monomolecular film 33 containing ester bonds thus was formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surface. Its thickness was about 2.0 nm (Figure 10(b)).

The treated filaments were then dipped in an ether solution containing several per cent by weight of lithium aluminium hydride (LiAlH_4) at room temperature for reaction for 20 minutes to introduce hydrophilic hydroxyl end groups. Thus, a monomolecular film 34 (Figure 10(c)) represented by formula [37] was formed.



A monomolecular film 23 containing ester bonds thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surfaces. Its thickness was about 2.0 nm (Figure 17(b)).

The treated filaments were then dipped and held in a solution containing 36 % by weight of hydrochloric acid (HCl) for reaction at 65 °C for 30 minutes to introduce hydrophilic end carboxyl groups as represented by formula [40].

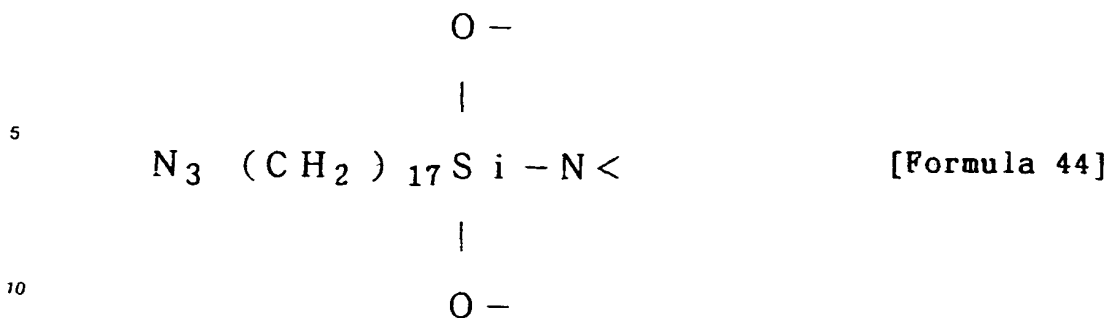


A monomolecular 104 (Figure 17(c)) thus could be obtained. The film was firmly chemically (or covalently) bonded to the surface and did not separate at all. By treating the chemically adsorbed film with diluted NaOH aqueous solution, the carboxylic acid of the film was changed to sodium carboxylic acid salt 105 (Figure 17(d)).

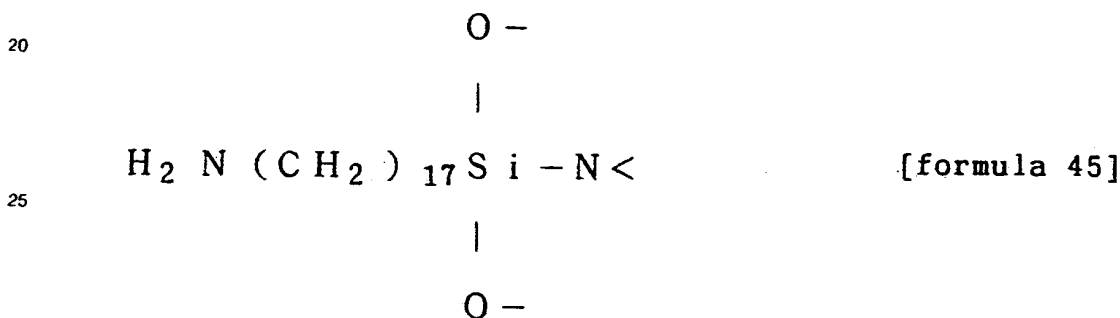
The hydrophilic filaments thus obtained were used to produce an artificial wig. The wig did not collapse in the rain and was not electrically charged at all when it was not raining fine.

EXAMPLE 17 (introduction of an -NH₂ group)

Nylon filaments 51 for an artificial wig were prepared (Figure 12(a)). The filaments were dipped and held for about two hours in a non-aqueous solution containing an adsorbed material having a cyano and a chlorosilyl group, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of n-hexadecane (or toluene, xylene or dicyclohexyl), 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, prepared dissolving about 1 % by weight of NC(CH₂)₇SiCl₃. A dehydrochlorination reaction brought about between chlorosilane (-SiCl) groups in the material and imino groups 52 contained numerously at the filament surfaces. The fiber was then washed with freon 113 to remove unreacted material remaining on the surface, followed by washing with water or exposing to air containing moisture. The residual -SiCl group was changed to a -SiOH group. Each silanol group was then dehydrated and crosslinked to form a siloxane bond after drying as in the formula [41]. Drying temperature may be room temperature or above.



Further, the material was dipped in ether containing lithium aluminium hydride dissolved therein (10 mg/ml) for overnight reaction. Then, it was put in an empty container, and an ether solution containing 10 % by weight hydrochloric acid was added. Thereafter, it was dipped in a triethylamine solution for two hours and then washed with chloroform solution. Thus, a monomolecular film represented by formula [45] and having a water-wetting angle of 60 degrees could be obtained.



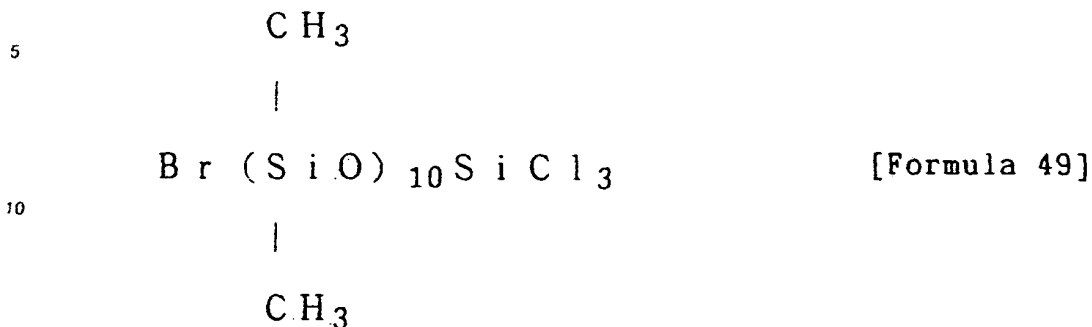
The film was very firmly chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surfaces and did not separate at all.

The treated filaments thus obtained were used to produce an artificial wig. The wig did not collapse in the rain and did not electrically charge when it was not raining or during low relative humidity weather conditions.

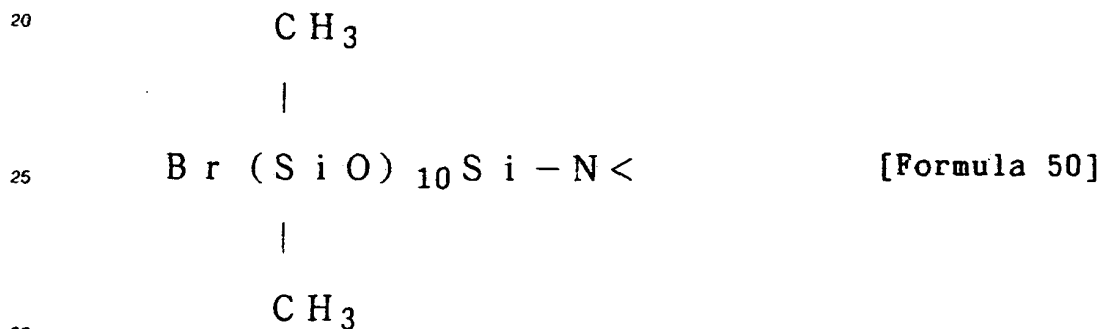
EXAMPLE 18 (introduction of a $-\text{N}^+\text{R}_3\text{X}^-$, (X represents a halogen atom) group)

Basic dyeable polyester filament fibers 71 containing surface -OH groups 71 (Figure 14(a)) were dipped and held for about five hours in a non-aqueous solution containing a chlorosilane group at each end, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of n-hexadecane (or toluene, xylene or dicyclohexyl), 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, prepared by dissolving about 2 % by weight of $\text{ClSi(CH}_3)_2(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{SiCl}_3$. A dehydrochlorination reaction was brought about between chlorosilane (-SiCl) groups in the material containing a chlorosilane group at each end and hydroxyl groups 72 contained at the filament surfaces. Thus, bonds represented by formula [46] were produced over the entire filament surfaces. A monomolecular film 73 containing chlorosilane groups thus could be formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surfaces (Figure 14(b)).

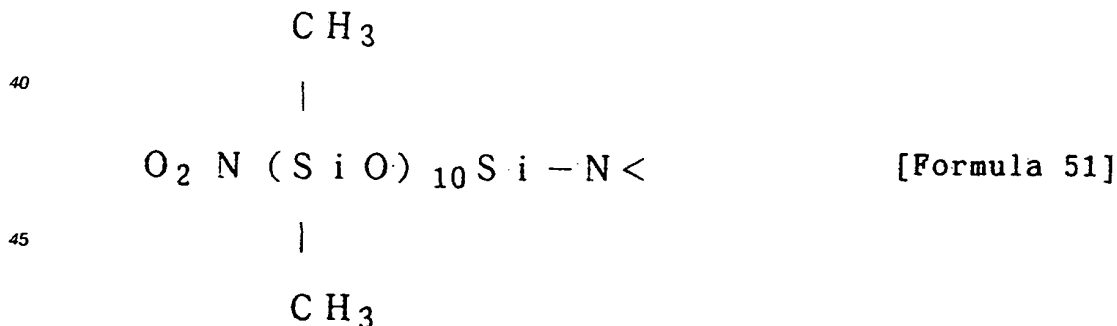
dicyclohexyl), 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform, prepared by dissolving about 2 % by weight of a compound represented by formula [49].



A dehydrochlorination reaction was brought about between chlorosilane (-SiCl) groups in the material containing a bromo or iodo and a chlorosilane group and imino groups numerous contained at the filament surfaces. Thus, bonds represented by formula [50] were produced over the entire filament surfaces.



A monomolecular film 83 containing bromo groups thus was formed. The film was chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surfaces. Its thickness was about 2.5 nm (Figure 15(b)). The treated filaments were then dipped in an alkaline aqueous solution containing 5 % by weight of AgNO₃ for reaction at 80 °C for two hours. Thus, a hydrophilic monomolecular film 84 (Figure 1(c)) as represented by formula [51] was obtained.



The hydrophilic filaments thus obtained were used to produce an artificial wig. The wig did not collapse in the rain and did not electrically charge even when it was not raining.

EXAMPLE 20 (introduction of a -SO₃H group)

Nylon filaments as artificial wig material (Figure 18(a)) were prepared, washed with an organic solvent and dipped and held for about five hours in a non-aqueous solution containing a material containing a thiocyno (-SCN) and a chlorosilane group, e.g., a solution containing 80 % by weight of n-hexadecane (or toluene, xylene or dicyclohexyl), 12 % by weight of carbon tetrachloride and 8 % by weight of chloroform.

then were washed with a Freon-based solvent and then with water. Thus, $(\text{HO})_3\text{SiO}^-$ was formed on the filament surfaces containing hydroxyl and imino groups. Hydroxyl groups were thus formed in a molecular array on the surface. The surface thus obtained was considerably hydrophilic. However, by carrying out the process in any of Examples 15 to 20 subsequent to the chemical adsorption of SiCl_4 , a higher density hydrophilic monomolecular film can be formed via the siloxane monomolecular film on the filament surfaces.

As in this example, hydrophilic groups can be secured to the surfaces of chemical synthetic fiber filaments as artificial wig material via molecules chemically adsorbed to the filament surfaces and by chemical (or covalently) bonds. Sweat spread over the entire filament surfaces, and the wig does not become musty. In addition, since the film is chemically (or covalently) bonded to the filament surfaces, it does not separate. Further, its thickness is on the order of nanometers, and therefore it does not deteriorate the intrinsic elasticity or luster of the filaments. It is thus possible to provide an artificial wig, which is free from collapse and can be combed satisfactorily.

As has been shown, the invention is greatly beneficial to industry.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiment is to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are intended to be embraced therein.

Claims

1. An apparel product comprising a chemically adsorbed monomolecular film having a stem thereof bonded by covalent bonds to the surface of the apparel product.
2. The apparel product according to claim 1, wherein said chemically adsorbed monomolecular film formed on a siloxane-based monomolecular inner layer film.
3. The apparel product according to claim 1, wherein said covalent bond contains a -Si- bonds.
4. The apparel product according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said chemically adsorbed film has outer surface fluorocarbon groups.
5. The apparel product according to claim 4, wherein said apparel product is a synthetic fiber swimsuit.
6. The apparel product according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said chemically adsorbed film has a portion containing hydrophilic functional groups.
7. The apparel product according to claim 6, wherein said apparel product is a synthetic fiber fabric.
8. The apparel product according to claim 6, wherein said apparel product is an artificial wig having chemical or synthetic fibers.
9. The apparel product according to claim 6, wherein said hydrophilic functional groups of said chemically adsorbed film include at least one functional group selected from the group consisting of -OH, -COOH, -NH₂, -N⁺R₃X⁻ (where R represents an alkyl group, and X represents a halogen atom), -NO₂ and -SO₃H.
10. The apparel product according to claim 6, wherein said chemically adsorbed film is represented by the formula

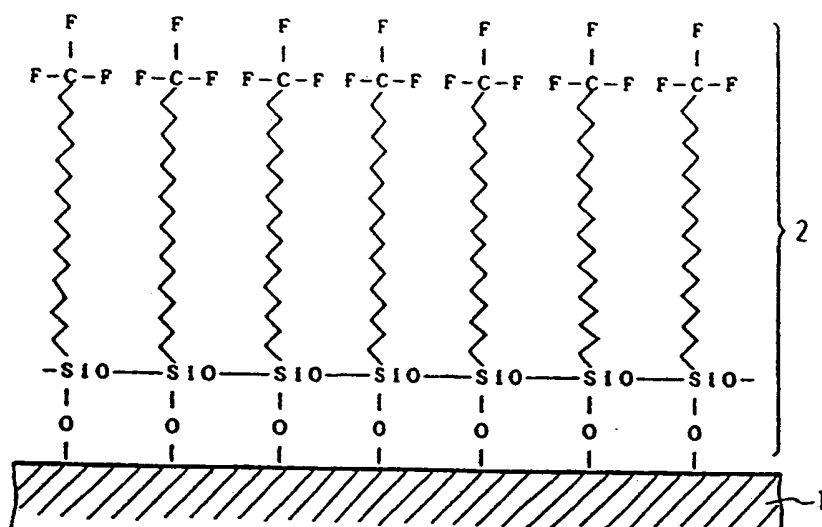


Figure-1

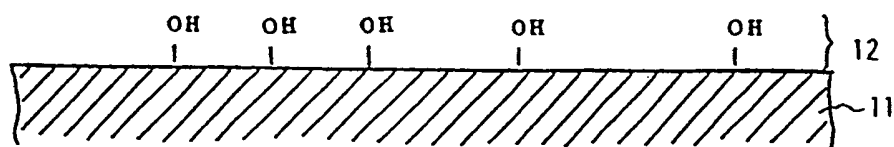


Figure-2

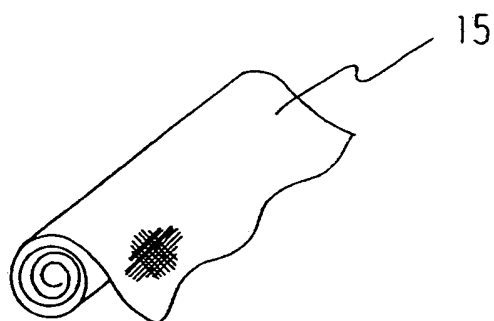


Figure-5

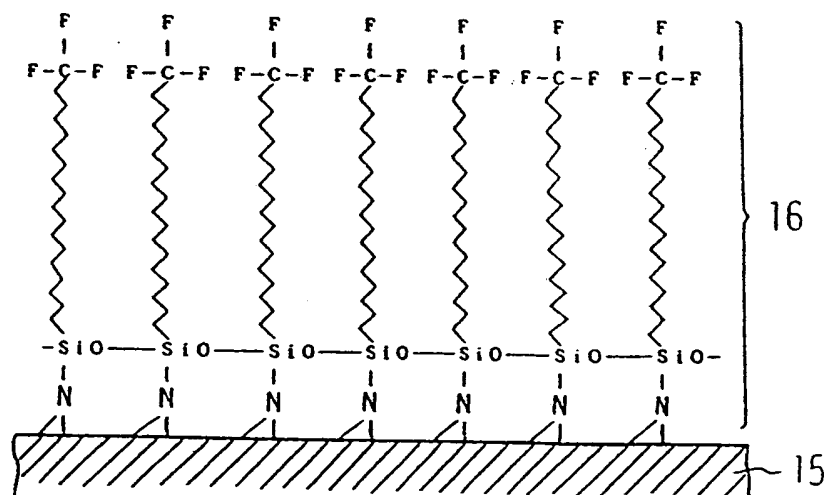


Figure-6

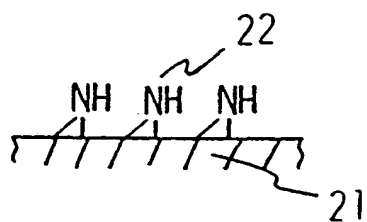


Figure-8 (a)

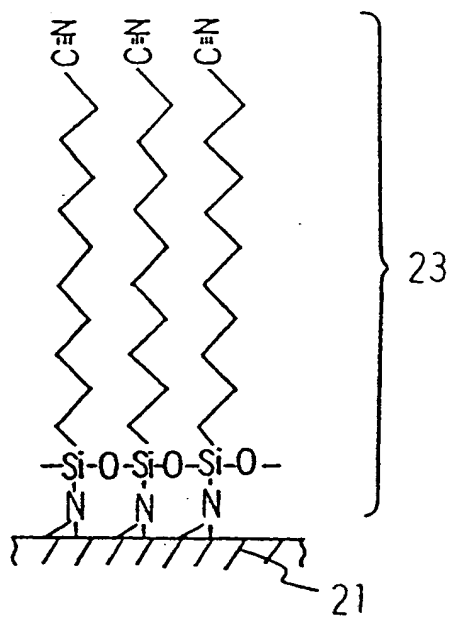


Figure-8 (b)

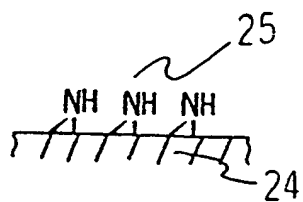


Figure-9 (a)

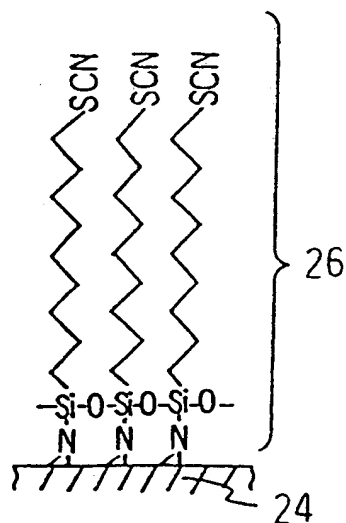


Figure-9 (b)

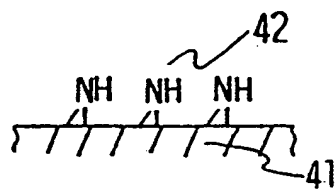


Figure-11 (a)

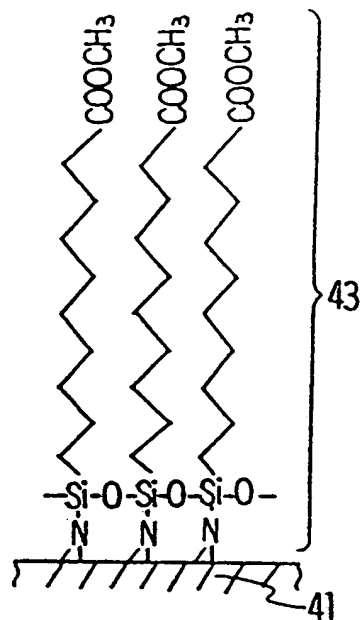


Figure-11 (b)

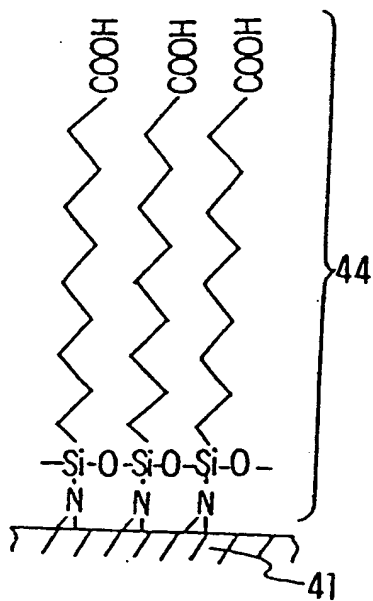


Figure-11 (c)

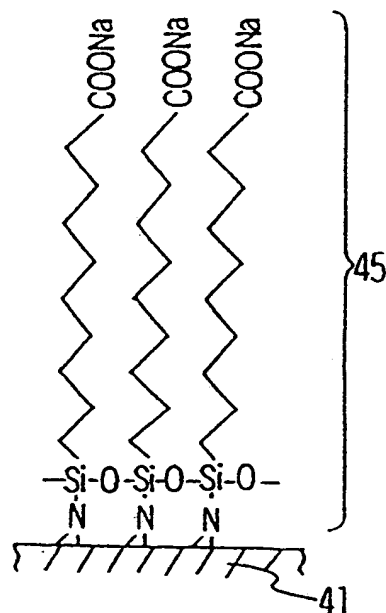


Figure-11 (d)

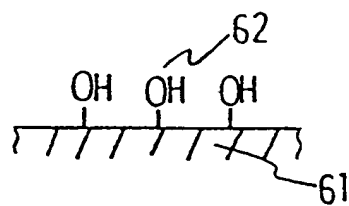


Figure-13 (a)

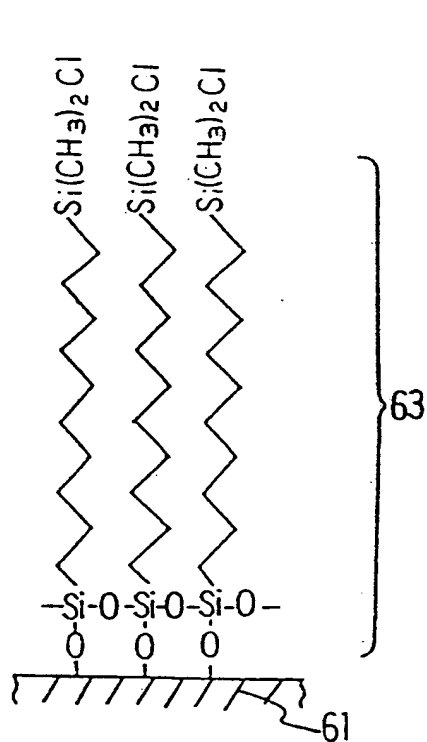


Figure-13 (b)

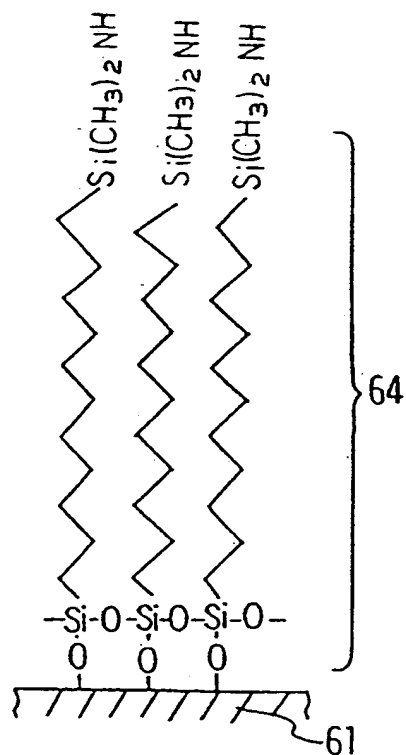


Figure-13 (c)

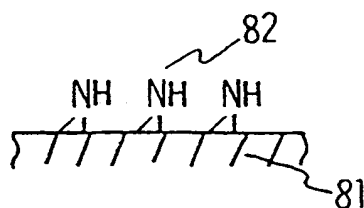


Figure-15 (a)

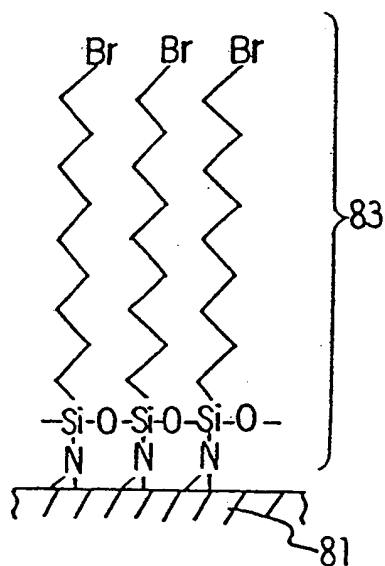


Figure-15 (b)

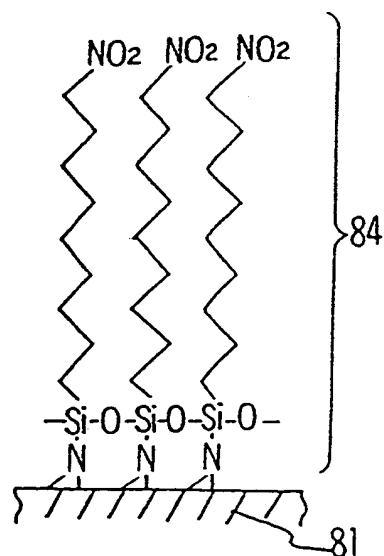


Figure-15 (c)

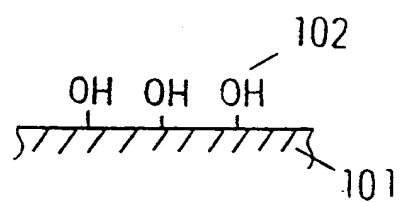


Figure-17 (a)

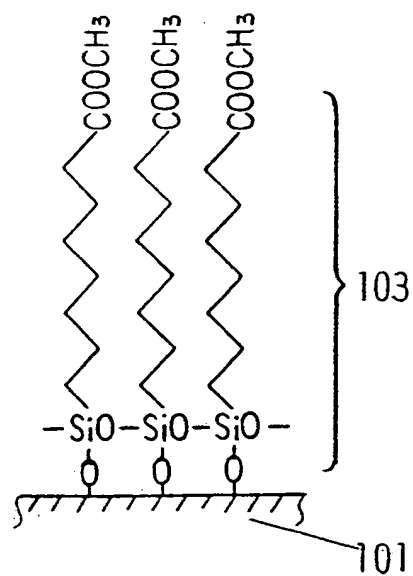


Figure-17 (b)

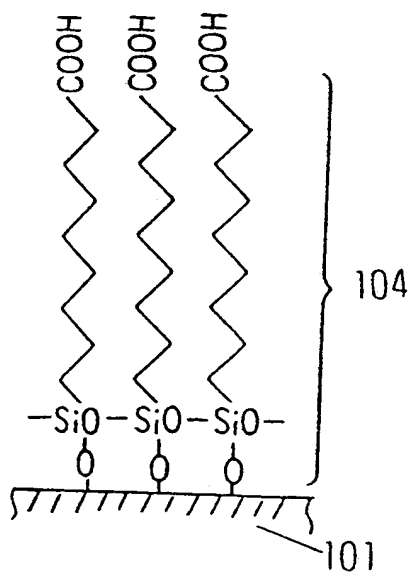


Figure-17 (c)

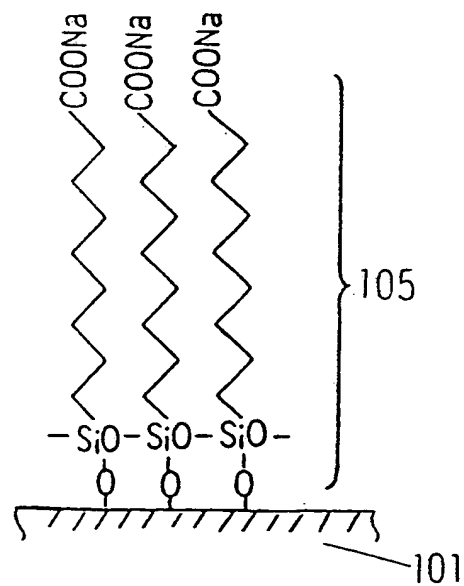


Figure-17 (d)

(19)



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(54) **Surface-treated apparel material.**

(57) According to the invention, a chemically adsorbed film is formed on an apparel material which has a surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups and a stem which is chemically bonded by -Si-bonds to the material. A high performance apparel material thus can be provided which retains intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation and aesthetic appearance and is excellently durable and highly water- and oil-repelling and anti-contaminating or excellently durable and highly hydrophilic. The chemically adsorbed film has a very thin surface layer containing fluorocarbon groups, and is thus excellently water- and oil-repelling and anti-contaminating. In addition, since its stem is chemically bonded via -Si- bonds to the material, it does not separate and is excellently durable. Further, it is very thin and does not adversely effect intrinsic properties of material such as ventilation, color and aesthetic appearance.